

ROTARY CLUB OF DUXBURY



(Photo taken June 1951 at White's Restaurant, So. Duxbury.)

Robert Kleinhans, unknown, Everett Handy, Robert Pierce, Ralph Logan, Laurel Freeman, John DeLorenzo, Elmer Wadsworth, Curt Gosnell, Allan Southard [VP], James Jenner, Thomas Williams, [Pres.], Myron Crowe, Herman Lion [Sec'y], George Chapin Jr., George Capelle Jr. [Treas.], William Fragel, Henry LaFleur, Henry Thomas, Robert Smith, Walter Wolfe, William McNeil, James Brody, and last one unknown.

On June 30, 1950 the Duxbury Rotary Club was granted its charter at a meeting held at Toll House in Whitman. The sponsoring club was Plymouth, and the charter president was H. Thomas Williams. Two of the charter members are still active members of the club: George Chapin and Laurel Freeman.

Rotary has prospered in Duxbury, as it has throughout the world, primarily because it is a "service" club. Members join to be of service to their vocations, their communities and to in-

ternational understanding and good will. Many members hold important posts in the community.

Programs

Duxbury Rotary has used a number of programs to raise funds for community service projects; namely, parking cars for Duxbury Days, collecting waste paper, barbershop quartet concerts, and auctions, to name a few. Incidentally, the "High Tiders," barbershop quartet was made up of members of Duxbury Rotary: Willard Mills, Chester

Sheets, the late Winthrop Clarke and Ted Leonard. This year's auction is planned for Aug. 2.

The major project in Community Service has been the scholarships which have been given to high school graduates for many years past. The Duxbury Club also has had 3 candidates selected for Rotary Foundation Graduate Fellowships. In each case the grant paid all expenses for a year's study in a foreign country.

The first recipient was Elsa Marston, daughter of Mrs.

Everett Marston and the late Everett Marston, of Chestnut St.

The second was John Nunley of Marshfield, and the third, and present recipient, is Amy Gazin, daughter of Mrs. Paul Gazin and the late Paul Gazin, of Old Fields Lane. She will start her year of study abroad in September of this year.

Special Needs

The club has contributed to many local special needs, such as sending a boy to a rehabilitation camp, helping in personal disasters, supplying Thanksgiving and Christmas food baskets, and having Christmas parties for needy young people.

Among ambitious projects, the club built a life guard tower and paid for a life guard for a season, to start the life guard program at Duxbury Beach. The club gave \$1000 to the Jordan Hospital's first building program. The club has been sponsor to Troop 52 Boy Scouts for many years. One year they presented the troop with a camping trailer. They are now starting the sponsorship of a Cub Pack. They paid for a training program in New Hampshire for Duxbury Fire Department personnel.

The club gave a wheel chair to the Duxbury Nurse Assn.; a special stretcher to the fire department ambulance; built the lighting for the youth hockey at Tobey Garden Pond; helped with the building of the football scoreboards, and the painting of the dog pound.

Past President Jim Rowley was instrumental in bringing many of these projects to the club.

The club maintains a great interest in the activities of Rotary International. One of its members, Ted Leonard, served as Governor of Rotary District 795, which has 63 clubs, in 1963-64.

Finally, the club has helped the District entertain official visits of several groups from foreign countries, sponsored by the

Rotary Foundation.

Past Presidents

1950-51 - Tom Williams
1951-52 - Al Southard
1952-53 - George Chapin
1953-54 - Henry Thomas
1954-55 - John DeLorenzo
1955-56 - Will Mills
1956-57 - Bill Lanyon
1957-58 - Ted Page
1958-59 - Grant Wilber
1959-60 - Win Clarke
1960-61 - Ted Brodie
1961-62 - Bob MacCallum
1962-63 - Ted Leonard
1963-64 - Norman Schaffer
1964-65 - John Bruce
1965-66 - George Teravainen
1966-67 - Dick MacCallum
1967-68 - Brad Lewis
1968-69 - Dick Washburn
1969-70 - Jim Rowley
1970-71 - Ed Milligan
1971-72 - Bob Kennedy
1972-73 - Joseph Willingham
1973-74 - Stuart Matheson
1974-75 - Charles Smith

According to Justin Winsor's *History of Duxbury*, the population of Duxbury was 2798 in 1840, when shipbuilding was flourishing. There had been a steady increase since 1810, when the figure was 2201. Between 1800 and 1810, the increase in population was 537, says Winsor.

Duxbury was a heavily wooded hamlet back in 1643, when wild life abounded. The records of that year show that there were 82 persons between the ages of 16 and 60 who were able "to bear arms." On the basis of these figures, Winsor estimates the population of Duxbury to have 400 in 1643.

By 1710 there were 175 heads of families living in Duxbury. Winsor concludes from these figures that the population in that year was roughly 1100. The population curve since 1643, then, has risen steadily, and it was only after 1900 that the curve dropped in some years before the present peak population of 1975 was reached.